

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
/167 W

-----128490 261917Z /64

P 261842Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0167

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 08151

USMTN

PASS COMMERCE FOR INFO
PASS STR FOR INFO
STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
SUBJECT: ISAC 25 (AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT) MEETING WITH MTN
DELEGATION, MAY 4-5

REF: GENEVA 8084

1. ISAC 25 (AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT) MET ON MAY 4-5 WITH
AMB. MCDONALD AND MTN DELEGATION STAFF IN MEETINGS WHICH
PROCEEDED GENERALLY AS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. THE ISAC WAS
REPRESENTED BY CHAIRMAN THOMAS R. ATKINSON, GENERAL
MOTORS CORP.; JAMES R. GOLDEN, FORD MOTOR COMPANY; ROBERT
L. SCHUTTE, AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, AND
JOHN V. MOLLER, MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.
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2. IN THEIR MEETINGS, ISAC 25 REPS STRESSED THEIR VIEWS
THAT ALTHOUGH THE MAJOR U.S. AUTOMOTIVE COMPANIES ARE
INTERNATIONAL TRADING AND MANUFACTURING CONCERNS AND
THEREFORE SUPPORT TRADE BARRIER LIBERALIZATION, THEY SAW
ONLY MODEST BENEFITS TO THEIR INDUSTRY RESULTING DIRECTLY
FROM THE TOKYO ROUND NEGOTIATIONS. MOST OF THEIR MAIN

CONERNS WERE IN THE AREAS OF MILITARY PROCUREMENT POLICY REGARDING AIRCRAFT, FINANCING AND OFFSET ARRANGEMENTS. WHILE SOME OF THESE CONCERNS COULD BE TOUCHED UPON IN THE MTN, THE NET RESULTS COULD ONLY HAVE A TANGENTIAL EFFECT. WHAT BENEFITS WOULD ACCRUE TO THEM IN THE MTN ITSELF THEY FELT COULD BE READILY PAID FOR BY A FORMULA CUT OF THE THREE PER CENT AUTO DUTY TO 2.5 PER CENT AS OPPOSED TO THE ZERO DUTY CURRENTLY OFFERED BY THE U.S.

3. THE ISAC REPS REITERATED THEIR ISAC PRIORITY REQUESTS THAT THE EC TRUCK TARIFF BE REDUCED, THAT JAPANESE CONTINUE WITNESS-TESTING PROCEDURES FOR U.S. AUTOS DUE TO EXPIRE AFTER 1979 MODEL YEAR, AND THAT LOCAL CONTENT AND EXPORT REQUIREMENTS PROLIFERATING AMONG THE LDC'S SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INCREASE BEOND CURRENT LEVELS. ISAC REPS ALSO REQUESTED THAT USG ENDEAVOR TO LAY A BASE IN MTN FOR PLANNING A FUTURE CONFERENCE IN WHICH SUBSTANTIVE INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOBILE SAFETY AND POLLUTION STANDARDS COULD BE NEGOTIATED.

4. AT CLOSING MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, THE ISAC REPRESENTATIVES INDICATED THAT THEIR DISCUSSION IN GENEVA HAD BEEN MOST PRODUCTIVE AND THAT THEY FELT THAT THE DEL WAS NOW WELL AWARE OF THEIR PRIORITY CONCERNS.

5. DRAFTED BY SJFALKEN. MCDONALD

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NNN

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